(d) if so, when is the formal discussion likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) Dr. Indira Goswami had earlier taken the initiative for talks with United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA). After three rounds of talks with Peoples' Consultative Group (PCG), which was set up by ULFA, Government had declared unilateral Suspension of Operations (SoO) by Army against ULFA from 13.8.2006 to 20.9.2006 with a view to create a conducive atmosphere for holding of peace talks. There was no direct response from ULFA and some inputs were received of regrouping, new raising, violence, collection of weapons/explosives and extortion by ULFA cadres. As a result, Counter Insurgency operations against ULFA were resumed.

Dr. Indira Goswami in the capacity of President Nagrik Shanti Manch (NSM) recently presented a memorandum for resumption of peace talks between Centre/ State Government and ULFA. Dr. Indira Goswami has been, *inter alia*, informed that the Government would await a formal communication from top ULFA leaders indicating their willingness to enter into negotiations without any pre-conditions. Response is yet to be received from ULFA leaders.

(c) and (d) Suspension of Operations (SoO) agreement is in force with National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) since 1.6.2005. The NDFB has been repeatedly requested to submit its Charter of Demands so that discussions could be initiated but they have not submitted its Charter of Demands so far. It is, therefore, premature to indicate the time frame for formal talks with NDFB.

Persons killed/injured by blueline buses in Delhi

1773. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of blue line private buses which were plying in Delhi as on 1st July, 2007, number out of them which were more than eight years old;

(b) whether a large number of these buses were not road worthy but were plying only by bribing officials and large number of complaints against them went un-heeded;

(c) the number of persons killed and seriously injured by these buses during 2005-06 and 2007, so far;

(d) whether any ex-gratia payment is made in such cases;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the action taken against concerned owners/crew?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) A total of 3871 Blue Line Stage Carriage permits were valid as on 1.7.2007 out of which buses more than eight years old are 441.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The number of persons killed and seriously injured in road accidents caused by blue line private buses during the years 2005, 2006 and 2007 (upto 15.8.2007) are as under:–

Year	Persons killed	Persons injured
2005	157	284
2006	109	330
2007 (unto 15.8.2007)	80	195

(d) and (e) Under the Motor Vehicles Act, a Solatium Fund Scheme (Hit and Run) exists, under which road accident victims who get killed by unknown vehicles are paid an amount of Rs.25000/- by Oriental Insurance Company.

(f) From 1.1.2005 onwards, 42 permits were suspended for various periods ranging from 10 to 15 days. Further, after 1.7.2007, State Transport Authority has cancelled four permits of Blue Line buses involved in fatal accidents and found with tampered speed limiting devices. Driving licenses of a total of 955 drivers found involved in fatal accidents have been cancelled including 268 drivers of Blue Line buses.

Non-adherence to TRAI norms by ZEE Telefilms

1774. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Zee Telefilms are not adhering to the norms to TRAI in providing their bouquet of channels to Tata Sky and Doordarshan;

(b) whether it is also a fact that viewers to Tata Sky and Doordarshan are unable to watch the Zee channels; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken or propose to take to ensure that Zee Telefilms adhere to TRAI norms and provide their bouquet of channels to Tata Sky and Doordarshan?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) TRAI has not prescribed any norms for provision of specific bouquet or specific channel by a broadcaster to a DTH service provider. However, clause 3.2 of TRAI's Interconnection regulation of 10th December, 2004 has provided for non-discriminatory access to all distributors of TV channels.

(b) Carrying any particular channel on DTH platform is purely a business and commercial decision of a DTH service provider. TRAI has not mandated the carriage of specific channels on different DTH platforms.

(c) In view of reply to part (a) and (b), the question does not arise.